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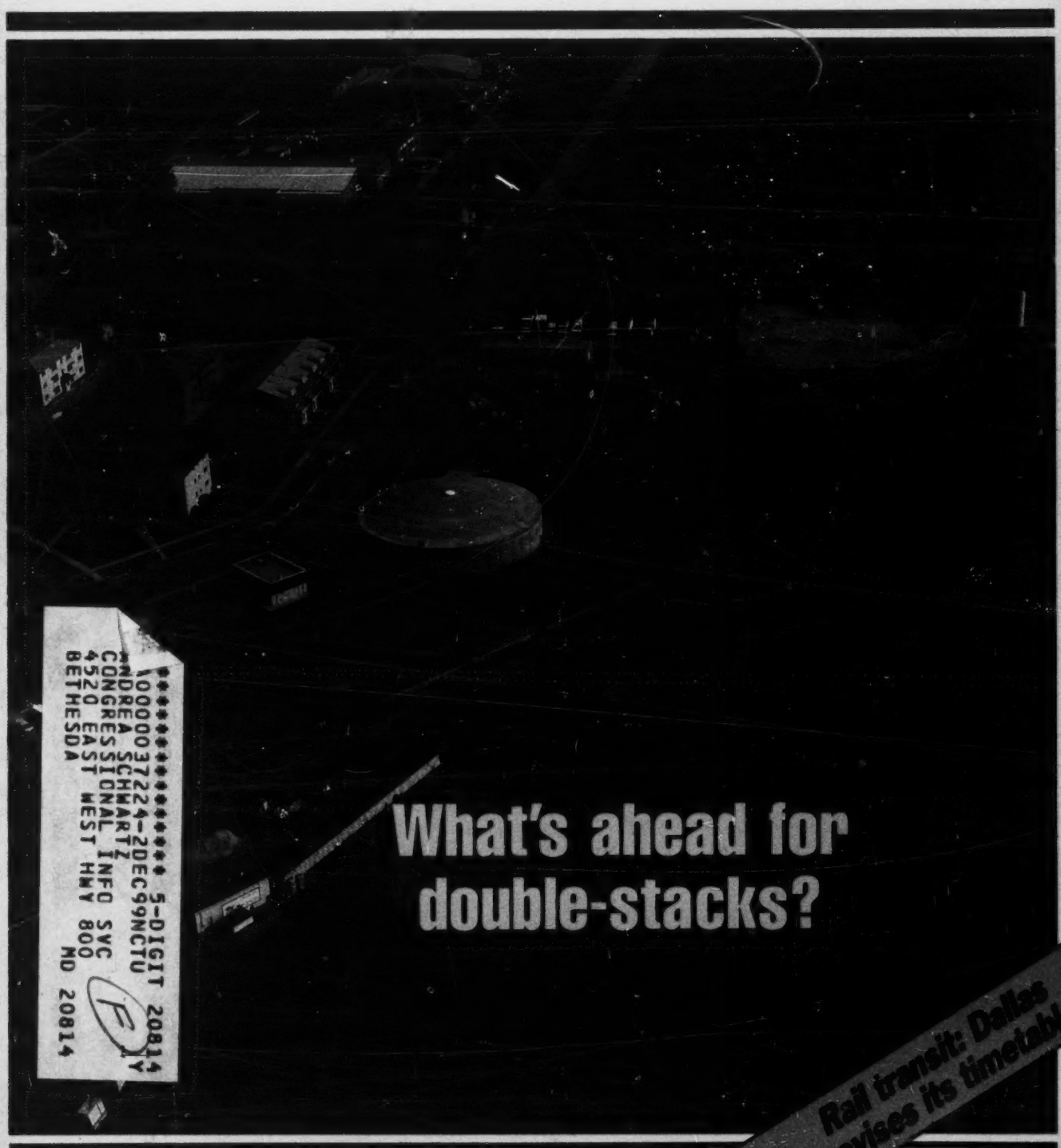
May 1986

Railway Age

...for the new age of railways



What's ahead for double-stacks?

Rail transit: Dallas revises its timetable

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Features

32 High-productivity railroading: Keeping rolling stock rolling

Railroads are producing more ton-miles with fewer cars and locomotives. As existing equipment works harder, the question of investing in replacement fleets could become more urgent.

36 What's ahead for double-stacks?

More growth is in the cards—but how much growth depends on a number of imponderables, including the profitability of these container-on-container trains.

40 High-tech loaders lift terminal efficiency

In a time of rapid change, the optimum shape of tomorrow's intermodal terminal is still unknown. But the need for efficient lift equipment is clear, and suppliers are rising to the challenge.

43 Prolonging crosstie life

With ties carrying an increasingly heavy burden (and a hefty m/w price tag) the search for ways to extend their life is intensifying.

57 Cleveland: An end to Red Line blues?

Will a thorough rehabilitation and a new fleet of cars bring new life to a line that has lost half its riders? Cleveland's RTA hopes so.

63 Dallas: A new timetable for DART

A reappraisal of the master plan may result in some delays and cost-saving realignments—but Dallas still hopes to put in 147 miles of "pre-metro" rail.

Conrail speeds an APL Linertrain from Chicago to the East Coast. Conrail photo by Don O'Barsky.

Update

22 Train-handling: FreightMaster seeks a fix on the future
22 CSX offers $742 million for Sea-Land Corp.
23 Private company plans intermodal terminal
23 CN will recycle retarder brake shoes
23 Rate of return drops below 4%
23 MidSouth completes purchase of ICG line
24 76 new plants sprout along Norfolk Southern
24 ICG will expand automotive facility
24 California museum gets ATSF relics
24 US&S and RMS form Signalcom Canada
27 CSX builds its own scale test cars at a big cost saving
28 Caterpillar's fuel-saving combo gets test on the North Western
29 Clerks vote 5-to-1 for new agreement extending to mid-1988
29 UTU ends its affiliation with the AFL-CIO
30 To avoid strike, BLE opts for arbitration
30 Southern Pacific: Buyout now, save later
52 New York wins grant for light rail study
52 Jacksonville awards contract to MATRA
52 Lavalin makes bid for Ontario's UTDC
53 Sydney will install downtown monorail
53 TTC stations get banking machines
53 Miami Metro opens its "missing link"
54 High speed parley expects 400 attendees
54 $12-billion program proposed for New York
54 NJ Transit order goes to Bombardier

Comment

6 Inside
19 Watching Washington
20 Lines on Labor
51 In Transit
78 Publisher's Perspective

Departments

8 Meetings
13 Industry Outlook
14 Market Outlook
66 People in the News
68 Letters
69 Products Report
73 New Literature
77 100 Years Ago

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Market Outlook

Equipment

American Maize Products Co.: Acquired 20 5,650-cubic-foot-capacity covered hopper cars from Pullman Leasing Co., for shipment of corn-gluten feed pellets. The cars are re-engineered and rebuilt 4,750-cubic-foot-capacity covered hoppers. Re-engineering included a mechanical "re-work," installation of trough hatches instead of circular hatches and gravity outlet gates instead of roto-tube gates, and repainting. Earlier, PL supplied 40 re-engineered cars to Genstar Cement Co. (*RA*, Feb., p. 14).

Bombardier, Inc.: Has acquired 45% of the capital stock of the Belgian company, Constructions Ferroviaires et Metalliques BN (formerly Brugeoise et Nivelles). Bombardier thus becomes the principal stockholder of the Belgian manufacturer of railroad transit and freight equipment. Since 1979, Bombardier has held North American rights for such BN-designed equipment as the light rail vehicles recently delivered to Portland, Ore.

GO Transit (Toronto): Ordered 83 bi-level cars, including 56 coaches and seven cab cars, from Urban Transportation Development Corp., for delivery in late 1987. GO will use the equipment, its third generation of bi-levels, to expand commuter service. The order is valued at $82.3 million (Canadian).

Los Angeles County Transportation Commission: Awarded the first major contract for the 21.5-mile, $690-million Los Angeles to Long Beach light-rail transit project. The contract, which went to the Pomona Valley Equipment Co. of Huntington Beach, calls for demolition and removal of an 850-foot ex-Southern Pacific bridge over the Los Angeles River in north Long Beach; LATC will build a new bridge to meet current seismic standards.

New Jersey Transit: Awarded a $100-million (Canadian) order to Bombardier for 20 new commuter cars, similar to 117 previously supplied, and the overhaul of 147 cars. The new cars will be manufactured at Bombardier's La Pocatiere, Que., plant, with final assembly at the builder's Barre, Vt., facility.

Revenue freight carloadings

Commodity	April 5 week	March 29 week	March 22 week	March 15 week
Grain	19,213	18,073	20,596	21,900
Other farm products	2,821	2,732	2,763	2,939
Metallic ores	13,086	14,692	15,558	15,362
Coal	100,052	107,908	113,430	116,405
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,459	12,997	11,992	11,961
Nonmetallic minerals	8,675	8,152	9,155	9,890
Grain mill products	10,200	9,607	10,108	10,719
Food and kindred products	10,794	10,880	10,820	11,142
Primary forest products	10,242	10,111	10,541	10,525
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,129	8,578	8,466	8,010
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,847	13,054	13,043	13,349
Chemicals and allied products	27,770	24,641	25,813	26,935
Petroleum products	4,429	3,781	4,347	4,464
Stone, clay and glass products	10,331	9,733	9,514	9,868
Coke	4,847	3,975	4,640	4,845
Metals and products	9,340	9,475	8,616	8,426
Motor vehicles and equipment	18,096	19,120	22,190	23,250
Waste and scrap materials	8,125	7,707	8,511	8,727
Forwarder and shipper assn. traffic	5,331	5,533	5,593	5,548
All other carloads	61,963	64,014	64,166	65,318
LCL traffic	117	103	142	127
Total Cars Loaded	**359,867**	**364,866**	**380,804**	**389,710**
% change from previous year	(1.8)	(8.5)	(4.7)	1.9
Estimated revenue ton-miles (billions)	16.4	16.6	17.4	17.8
% change from previous year	1.0	(9.8)	(5.0)	(2.8)

Total:	**1986**	**1985**	**% change**
14 weeks	237.3	236.7	0.2

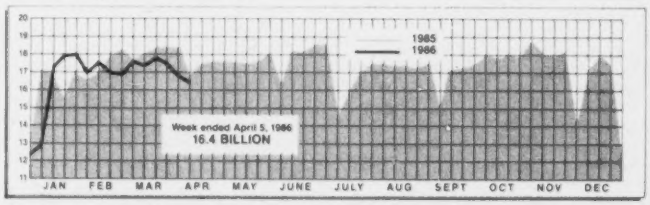
Piggyback loadings

	March 29 week	March 22 week	March 15 week	March 8 week
Trailers/containers	97,549	99,420	99,423	99,418

Cumulative total, 13 weeks		**% change from 1985**
Trailers/containers	1,222,801	12.7

Rail freight traffic trends

Billion ton-miles (Estimated)



Source: Association of American Railroads

Freight cars

	DELIVERED March 1986	DELIVERED 3 months 1986	DELIVERED 3 months 1985	ORDERED March 1986	ORDERED 3 months 1986	ORDERED 3 months 1985	ON ORDER AND UNDELIVERED April 1, 1986	Average Backlog 1986	Average Backlog 1985
Built new by carbuilders	574	1,561	2,585	1,252	3,177	2,606	3,375	2,629	4,169
Built new in RR shops	0	0	336	0	0	0	0	0	70
Built new—total	**574**	**1,561**	**2,921**	**1,252**	**3,177**	**2,606**	**3,375**	**2,629**	**4,239**
Rebuilt	50	50	0	0	50	0	0	17	0
TOTAL	**624**	**1,611**	**2,921**	**1,252**	**3,227**	**2,606**	**3,375**	**2,646**	**4,239**
Locomotives (new and rebuilt)	37	58	97	N/A	N/A	N/A	199	190	254

Source: Transportation Div., AAR and American Railway Car Institute